

**From:** jjoseph  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/28/02 5:45pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Agreement

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

Attached please find my letter in favor of the Microsoft Antitrust Agreement.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

John E. Joseph  
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Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 26, 2002

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The Tunney Act mandates that there be a 60-day public comment period that follows a settlement to an antitrust case when the Department of Justice is involved. The final decision on the proposed settlement is made after this period of review. I would like to go on record as supporting the settlement that was made between Microsoft and the Department of Justice.

I feel that Microsoft is actually being punished for being good at what they do. There is no reason why the federal government had to get involved in this issue in the first place, but since they did, I am glad to see that the dispute has finally been resolved. Microsoft actually has to concede more than they would have liked, but since the lawsuit is over and the economy needs all the help it can get, they agreed to the terms. One of the terms, which seem ridiculous, is the disclosure of Windows' internal interfaces and other operating technology that Microsoft worked long and hard to develop. This seems to violate intellectual property rights.

I enjoy the fact that my opinion will go on record, and again, I support the settlement reached between Microsoft and the Department of Justice.

Sincerely,

John Joseph

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